



**TECHNET**  
THE VOICE OF THE  
INNOVATION ECONOMY

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September 12, 2023

The Honorable Tyrone Carter  
Michigan House of Representatives  
Room 375, Capitol Building  
100 North Capitol Avenue  
Lansing, MI 48933

*RE: TechNet opposition to HB 4562*

Dear Representative Carter:

TechNet is the national, bipartisan network of technology CEOs and senior executives that promotes the growth of the innovation economy by advocating a targeted policy agenda at the federal and 50-state level. TechNet's diverse membership includes dynamic American businesses ranging from startups to the most iconic companies on the planet and represents over 4.5 million employees and countless customers in the fields of information technology, artificial intelligence, e-commerce, the sharing and gig economies, advanced energy, transportation, cybersecurity, venture capital, and finance.

I write on behalf of TechNet in **opposition to HB 4562**, problematic legislation that would mandate that manufacturers of digital electronic equipment provide unvetted third parties with sensitive diagnostic information, software, tools, and parts – without requiring the critical consumer protections afforded by authorized repair networks.

Consumers currently have a variety of professional repair options including independent repair providers or a manufacturer's authorized repair network. By establishing relationships with authorized repair providers, which include local small businesses, manufacturers can ensure the technicians receive the appropriate training and have the relevant qualifications so that repairs are done properly and safely. Contractual relationships that original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) enter into with their authorized repair networks contain quality and safety assurances for customers and technicians, thereby guaranteeing that repairs meet OEM performance and safety standards. Consumers deserve nothing less.

Unfortunately, HB 4562 severs this accountability link that protects consumers. If a consumer drops off their electronic device at a repair shop, they ought to be granted some level of security in the unfortunate circumstance that their data is compromised. After all, individuals keep a wealth of sensitive personal data on their devices. So, it is not only essential that each repair person be properly trained in

how to repair the device, but also that an accountability link exist between the manufacturer and the repair facility so that the consumer is protected. Lawmakers should prioritize the security of these devices and the sensitive data that is contained on electronics. Forcing OEMs to bypass security locks or other security-related functions puts Michiganders at risk and should be rejected by every lawmaker in the state.

Furthermore, this legislation fails to acknowledge the critical cybersecurity infrastructure that would be impacted by this legislation. As currently written, this bill would apply to critical infrastructure sectors whose assets, systems, and networks, whether physical or virtual, are considered so vital to the United States that their incapacitation or destruction would have a debilitating effect on security, national economic security, national public health or safety, or any combination thereof.

In closing, if a consumer wishes to bring their device to an unaffiliated third-party repair shop, there is nothing preventing them from doing so. They own the device and can choose where to have it serviced. But we must respectfully oppose the bill because it would eliminate the safety and security protections that currently benefit consumers.

Thank you for your consideration. Please reach out to me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tyler Diers', written in a cursive style.

Tyler Diers  
Executive Director, Midwest  
TechNet

Cc: Members of the Michigan House Regulatory Reform Committee  
Representative Kevin Coleman